

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAMASC 00398 231510Z

43

ACTION SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCA-01 NEA-10 SSO-00 /012 W

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O 231451Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5974

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS DAMASCUS 0398

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC (COWLES, MICHAEL AND CONNOLLY, RICHARD)

SUBJECT: W/W AMCITS COWLES AND CONNOLLY

REF: DAMASCUS 0341

1. NABIL ADRA OF TRIPOLI VISITED EMBASSY TODAY AND REPORTS COWLES AND CONNOLLY STILL BOTH IN BAALBECK. ADRA NOT RPT NOT IN DIRECT CONTACT WITH COWLES AND CONNOLLY BUT BELIEVES THEY WILL CONTACT HIM SOON.

2. WE TOLD ADRA OF ON-GOING ARRANGEMENTS FOR ENTRY AND ALSO GAVE HIM LETTER (TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN) INTRODUCING SUBJECTS AS KNOWN AMCITS WHO HAD LOST TRAVEL DOCUMENTS AND WHO WOULD BE ASSISTED BY THIS EMBASSY UPON ARRIVAL HERE. WE NOT SURE THAT ADRA WILL BE ABLE GET THE LETTER TO THE SUBJECTS BUT NOTHING LOST BY EFFORT.

3. ADRA SAYS COWLES AND CONNOLLY STAYING WITH JAFFAR FAMILY AND MAY NEED MONEY TO PAY JAFFARS FOR KEEPING THEM, BUT WE CANNOT BE SURE OF THIS UNTIL CONTACT MADE WITH COWLES.

4. FYI: EMBASSY BEIRUT WILL RECOGNIZE JAFFAR FAMILY AS BEING PERHAPS MOST FAMOUS HASHISH DEALERS OF BAALBECK. ADRA STATES BOTH AMCITS WERE FIRST LODGED RENT-FREE AT ONE HOME BUT WERE ASKED TO MOVE TO JAFFARS WHEN HOSTS REQUIRED THEM EITHER STOP USING HASHISH IN HOME OR LEAVE.

MURPHY

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